

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter focuses on the background of the research, statement of problems, objectives and significances of the research, then scope and limitation which is used by the researcher so that the research does not to be wider, and the last is research organization.

1.1 Background of the Research

Every human has mind or soul that makes them different from other creatures. The mind is used to control the human life. They use their mind to think, feel, or memorize anything. The mind of human also can make determine how human behavior in everyday life. All the action of human is managed by their mental process. It makes them have different personality between each other. Mind and behavior are a specific study called as psychology.

Psychology is one of interesting which can be applied in the literature. Psychology of literature is the study of creative process. The psyche problems and conflicts that occur whether in the author's experiences, characters, another human's experiences in their life can exist in the literary work. One of theory that related to psychology is psychoanalytic. "Psychoanalytic theory that is particularly useful to literary criticism and to show how this view of human behavior is relevant to our experience of literature" (Tyson, 2006:12). This is line with the idea, "psychoanalysis as a useful way of understanding human behavior", (2006:11). Psychoanalytic theory could be used as a way to know deeper about literary works. It can be about the understanding the personality in every character, resolving conflict, or the defense of character on facing their conflicts.

Conflicts always exist in the real life and literature. In the literature, conflict is important to build up the plot of story. There are two kinds of conflicts such as internal and external conflict. But the researcher is aimed to find out the conflicts that faced by female character in the three short stories then describes the influence of conflicts upon female character's structure of personality: the Id, Ego, and Superego by using psychoanalysis theory of Sigmund Freud.

Based on the explanation above, the researcher is interested to analyze the works of Guy de Maupassant. Guy de Maupassant is an author in these short stories. He was born at the Chateau de Miromesniel on August 5, 1850 and died on July 6, 1893 in Paris. During the 1880s Maupassant created some 300 short stories, six novels, three travel books and one volume of verse. Usually Maupassant's works were built with the simple episodes that depicted from everyday life which revealed the hidden sides of people. On the average his characters in his stories change depending on circumstance. Among Maupassant's bestknown books are *Une Vie* (*A Woman's Life*, 1883), about the frustrating existence of a Norman wife and *BelAmi* (1885), which depicts an unscrupulous journalist. *Pierre Et Jean* (1888) was a psychological study of two brothers. Maupassant's most upsetting horror story, *Le Horla* (1887), was about madness and suicide (retrieved from www.online-literature.com/Maupassant/).

The researcher chooses three of his short stories entitled "A Mother of Monsters", "Useless Beauty", and "A Widow". The first is "A Mother of Monsters" story was featured in volume 13 of Guy de Maupassant short stories. This story tells about a horrible mother, but she is a well-known young, elegant and charming Parisian, adored and respected by everyone. In her good appearance she hides miserable activity. A mother in A Mother of Monsters cannot accept her misfortune when she was young in her life that made she has weird behavior, like she is tight her body with a corset made of boards and cords and made little monsters of it then sell little monsters to showmen. She thinks that wears corset does not messing up her beauty and slimming body.

The second story is "Useless Beauty" was featured in the original short stories in volume 6. This story tells about Comtesse de Mascaret who is married with Comte de Mascaret through eleven years and they had seven children. As a mother, she feels that her husband compliments are pointless for her. She thought that her husband does not love children but looks at them as a victory over her beauty and freedom. Comtesse does not keep her anger any longer; in the church she tells to her husband that one of their children isn't his. In the end, Comtesse tells that what she said in the church was lie. She lied because she wants to build

her existence again in the society. The selfish husband makes her to live in motherhood, and it will disturb her appearance.

Then, the third story was entitled *A Widow* which is about a woman who is being lover to thirteen years old boy. She was amused at the tenderness from that boy. A boy loved on an old maid so deeply that made the woman feeling guilty. But in the summer the boy gone mad and suicide after he knew that woman was engaged with other man. This condition makes that woman broken off her marriage.

It was interesting to analyze “*A Mother of Monsters*”, “*Useless Beauty*”, and “*A Widow*” stories by Guy de Maupassant. The researcher had chosen those stories because they are good stories which tell about women who are preserving a slender figure up in their life. These stories portray female character as a victim of social rule and man power. Based on psychoanalytic, females always reflected they have weak ego and try hard to follow the social rule. Then another reason is about the author who is an amazing author. His works usually takes in everyday life, which showed the hidden sides of people. Maupassant’s fiction addresses the theme of human cruelty and incorporates his observations on French society. Maupassant represents his character the madwoman / monster figure and mothering in those stories.

Moreover, as far as the researcher knows, this research has not ever been conducted yet by other students as their subject in English Teacher Training and Education Program, Muhammadiyah University of Surabaya. Based on the elaboration the writer tries to analyze those stories in one study entitled “*The Influence of Conflicts Upon Female Character’s Structure of Personality in “A Mother of Monsters”, “ Useless Beauty”, and “A Widow” by Maupassant.* To understand deeper about this research, the writer applied psychoanalysis theory that supported this research.

1.2 Statements of the Problem

Based on the elaboration of the background of the research above, the writer formulates the following question of the research:

1. What are the conflicts that faced by female character in Maupassant’s “*A Mother of Monsters*”, “*Useless Beauty*”, and “*A Widow*”?

2. How is the female character's structure of personality in Maupassant's "A Mother of Monsters", "Useless Beauty", and "A Widow"?
3. How is the influence of conflicts upon female character's structure of personality in Maupassant's "A Mother of Monsters", "Useless Beauty", and "A Widow"?

1.3 Objectives of the Research

The objectives of the study must be clear, so there are some points as below:

1. To describe female character's conflicts in Maupassant's "A Mother of Monsters", "Useless Beauty", and "A Widow".
2. To describe female character's structure of personality in Maupassant's "A Mother of Monsters", "Useless Beauty", and "A Widow".
3. To find out the influence of conflicts upon female character's structure of personality in Maupassant's "A Mother of Monsters", "Useless Beauty", and "A Widow".

1.4 Significances of the Research

The significances of the study would be as follows:

1. This study is expected to improve the writer's knowledge especially about the stories and psychoanalysis approach
2. For the readers, the writer hopes that the study will give a new contribution to the larger body of knowledge about literary study on "A Mother of Monsters", "Useless Beauty", and "A Widow".
3. For the students of Muhammadiyah University, this study can be as a reference in literary study to analyzing "A Mother of Monsters", "Useless Beauty", and "A Widow".

1.5 Scope and Limitation of the Research

The scope in this study is psychoanalysis approach. Then the limitation of this research is conflicts and structure of personality. The researcher focuses to analyze the influence of conflicts upon structure of personality in a mother character "A Mother of Monsters", Comtesse de Mascaret in "Useless Beauty", and an aunt in "A Widow". Considering the problem formulation, the researcher

needs some theories that related to the problems such as; conflicts, structure of personality, and the supporting theory; psychoanalytic feminism.

1.6 Research Organization

This research is divided into five chapters. First, Chapter I is introduction, which contains the background of the research, statement of the problem, purpose of the research, significance of the research, scope and limitation of the research, and research organization. Second, chapter II is the review of related literature. In this chapter, the writer explains the underlying theory used in this research. Third, chapter III contains about research methodology that consists of the research design, source of the data, collecting of the data, and data analysis. Fourth, chapter IV is about discussion of the analysis toward the research. The last is chapter V, presents the conclusion and result of the analysis.